Bibliometric Analysis of SRELS Journal of Information Management : (1964-2016)

Synopsis of Thesis

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By

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1. Introduction

Periodicals are the most preferred medium of latest information. Scholarly journals are used by the scientists and professionals to share their ideas, thoughts, inventions, innovations, and discoveries. Libraries and documentation centres worldwide ensure the free flow of information and provide support services like circulation, reference, photocopy, etc., to researchers in academic institutions, autonomous research organisations, policy making bodies, planning and research units of government departments, business and industry, etc. Libraries play the roles of both knowledge accumulator and disseminator. Libraries are the only source that generally identify, acquire and disseminate the information. But the exponential growth of periodicals, varied demands of readers, ever-increasing cost of the publications, and the shrinking resources of libraries have put constraints on libraries to subscribe the types of resources. Bibliometric studies have helped librarians to use their meager resources in judicious selection of journals and other periodicals for their users.

2. Proposed Research (Importance of study)

The SRELS Journal of Information Management was founded in 1964 by Dr. S. R. Ranganathan and was known as 'Library Science with a slant to Documentation'. The title of the journal was changed to Library Science with a slant to Documentation and Information Studies from Vol.25 in 1988 and then to 'SRELS Journal of Information Management' from Vol.37 in 2000. The journal is peer reviewed and publishes scholarly as well as articles of practical use in the fields of library and information science and services. The journal completed 50 years in 2013. SRELS Journal of Information Management is published bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October and December).Considering the importance of bibliometric studies & history of SRELS Journal of Information Management. Then it was felt necessary to undertake the study on Bibliometric Analysis of SRELS Journal of Information Management (1964-2016) which would highlight the allover 53 years study of above journal.

3. Statement of Research Title

Bibliometric Analysis of SRELS Journal of Information Management (1964-2016)

3.1 Explanation of the concepts

3.1.1 Bibliometric

The word 'bibliometric' has been derived from the Latin and Greek words 'biblio' and 'metrics' respectively which refer to the application of mathematics to the study of bibliography. The word "bibliometrics" constitutes one of the major thrust areas of research in the field of library and information science. It utilizes quantitative analysis and statistics to describe patterns of publications within a given field or body of literature. The term statistical bibliography was first employed by E.W. Hulme in 1923, to refer to the application of quantitative techniques to libraries. The word bibliometrics appeared in print in 1969 in Alan Pitchard's article statistical bibliography or bibliometrics in the December issue of the Journal of Documentation.

3.1.2 SRELS Journal of Information Management

The SRELS Journal of Information Management was founded in 1964 by Dr. S. R. Ranganathan and was known as ‘Library Science with a slant to Documentation’. The title of the journal was changed to Library Science with a slant to Documentation and Information Studies from Vol.25 in 1988 and then to ‘SRELS Journal of Information Management’ from Vol.37 in 2000. The journal is peer reviewed and publishes scholarly as well as articles of practical use in the fields of library and information science and services. The journal completed 50 years in 2013. SRELS Journal of Information Management is published bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October and December).This Journal is published by Sarda Ranganathan Endowment for Library Science, Bangalore.

4. Objectives

1. To identify the number of contributions and the references cited during 1964-2016;
2. To know the geographical distribution of articles;
3. To find out the authorship pattern of the contributions.
4. To examine the volume-wise distribution of contributions and to find the average number of citations

   per volumes.
5. To study the types and number of publications cited in the contributions of the journal.

5. Hypothesis

1. The multi authored papers are more in number and single authored papers are of total journal. The number of collaborative papers indicates that the collaborative nature of research is growing
2. The study will help the researchers in identifying the primary sources of information from which citations have been made citations.
3. Referencing pattern of the journal reveals that majority of the authors preferred journals as the source of citation.

6. Review of Related Literature

6.1 Bibliometric

Zafrunnisha N. (2015) explained in article entitled “Bibliometric Study of Prabandhan: Indian Journal of Management ” that Bibliometric studies are made to investigate the characteristics of subject literature. They are used to know the publication pattern, authorship pattern, language and country of origin etc. The investigations of such kind of studies are found to be useful to manage the information resources and services in libraries and information centers. The distribution of citations according to bibliographic form, subject, country and language and rank list of cited journals are presented and discussed.

6.2 Bibliometric Analysis

Rattan, G. K. & Gupta, K. (2012) is discussed "Bibliometric Analysis" of the journal titled Malaysian Journal of Library and Information Science from 2007-2011. The analysis covers mainly the number of articles, authorship pattern, geographical distribution of authors, pattern of references etc. The results show that out of 100 articles, single authors contributed 27(27%) articles while the rest 73 (73%) articles are contributed by joint authors. It has been revealed that most of the contributors are from Malaysia. The study shows that about 62.54% of citations are from periodicals. The most cited periodicals have also been listed.

Thanuskodi, S. (2012) is described the results of a bibliometric analysis of the journal titled "Indian Journal of Agricultural Research" for the period from 2001 to 2010. The data were downloaded from the journal's website. This study aims at analysing the research output performance of agricultural scientists on agricultural science subjects. The analysis cover mainly the number of articles, authorship pattern, subject wise distribution of articles, average number of references per articles, forms of documents cited, year wise distribution of cited journals etc

Bansal, Alka (2013) is explained bibliometric analysis of the journal to assess the pattern of growth of the research output published in the journal, pattern of authorship and geographic distribution of output, subjects covered and citation analysis of the references attached to the papers and change in them over two different periods (2001-2006) and (2007-2012). It is found that 391 papers were published during the period of study (2001-2012).The maximum number of articles (65) was published in 2012.

Das, Prabir Kumar (2013) stated in article entitled Journal of Informetrics: A Bibliometric Profile critically analyses 239 scholarly communications published in the inaugural five volumes of Journal of Informetrics (JOI) to examine growth of literature, types of communications, authorship pattern, collaboration trend, predominant research domains, etc.

Rao, K. Nageswara & others (2014) analysis Journal of Propulsion and Power (JPP) is a bi-monthly peer reviewed journal published by American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). The present bibliometric analysis is based on 4047 articles published from 1985 to 2013. The study is aimed to assess the growth pattern of research output, authorship pattern, institutional productivity, and geographical distribution of output.

Malik, Mamta (2016) is defined Bibliometrics has become a standard tool of science policy and research management in the last decades. All significant compilations of science indicators heavily rely on publication and citation statistics and other, more sophisticated bibliometric techniques. This paper analyses resources used by the research scholars to write PhD thesis in the discipline of Political Science. The researcher analysed authorship Pattern, Year wise distribution, number of references, Number of Chapters in each thesis, length of Ph.D. Thesis, Geographical distribution on the basis of subjects of PhD, Thesis and to identify the bibliographical form of the thesis for the year 2009-2012.

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7. Scope & Limitation of the Study

This kind of study will help the researchers in identifying the primary sources of information from which citations have been made. Rank lists of journals cited by the researchers in different disciplines will also be helpful to the librarians in the selection and acquisition of the most useful journals within their limited budgets.

The Bibliometric Study is limited to single journal i.e. SRELS Journal of Information Management during period 1964 to 2016.

8. Methodology

The SRELS Journal of Information Management was used as a source journal for the study. Issues from 1964-2016 were scanned to collect the data. Quantitative and inferential methods have been used for evaluating the data. All journal issues were examined and research articles, review articles, and technical notes published in the source journal were included during 1964-2016 in the present study. Rest of the materials such as technical comments, editorial, announcements and acknowledgments, reviewers, ethical standards, manuscript review process, erratum, subject index, author index, chronological index, reply by authors, preface, scope and summary were excluded. A database is designed and developed using MS-Excel to store collected data. The details regarding each published article such as numbers of contributions, numbers of authors, numbers of references, length of pages, geographical distribution, etc. have examined and analysed for making observations.

9. Data Analysis

Collected data has been analyzed in tabular as well as graphical form taking into consideration the objectives stated . In graphical form bar charts, pir-charts, line graphs , etc are used for presentation.

10. Conspectus

The Theses have been presented in following chapters

Chapter 1 Introduction –it included primary information about research title & objectives, hypotheses, limitations, data collection techniques, research methodology, etc.

Chapter 2 Research Methodology

Chapter 3 Review of Related Literature – it includes review of related literature about research problem in different sources such as Books, Theses, E-Journals, E-Books, Journals, etc.

Chapter 4 Bibliometrics and It's Laws- Lotka's law of scientific productivity, Bradford's law of scatter, Zipf's law of word occurrence,etc.

Chapter 5 Data Analysis and Interpretation

Chapter 6 Summary & Conclusions

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